

PONTARDAWE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
REGISTERED
11 MAY 1954
A.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SENIOR SANITARY AND

SHOPS INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1952

PONTARDAWE :
Pontardawe Press Ltd., Tawe Terrace.

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1952.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Pontardawe Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1952. The Report is compiled in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health as given in Circular 2/53 (Wales).

The vital statistics published for the year 1952 show no important differences from those of recent years. A comparison of local rates with national rates tends to give rise to a false picture. A small difference in figures for the Rural District produces, owing to the comparatively small population, a difference in the various rates out of all proportion and thus they cannot be compared with those of England and Wales as a whole. However, there is nothing in the local vital statistics for 1952 to suggest that the area is any less healthy than any comparable area where conditions are similar.

Once again, as has been the case for a number of years, diseases of the heart and vascular system form the greatest single cause of death. To some extent, this is inevitable, as the bulk of deaths occurring in persons aged 65 and over are recorded as being caused by these diseases. The population is an ageing one, i.e., each year there is a larger proportion of the population over 65 years of age, thus it follows that each year there will be some increase in the number of deaths from diseases of the heart and vascular system. However, a perusal of the deaths from these causes will show that over the past 20 years there has been a steady increase in such deaths amongst persons of middle age, mainly from coronary thrombosis. This increase has occurred throughout Western Europe and the U.S.A. and is much more marked in males than in females. No specific reason has yet been found for this increase although much research, both statistical and clinical, has been devoted to the subject. Up to the present, it has not been possible to do much in the way of specific treatment for this disease, but recent experiments with certain new drugs have given rise to the hope that in the future this disease may prove less fatal even if its incidence continues to be high.

Reference to the housing figures published in this Report will show that the housing problem is still the most urgent one faced by this Authority in the Public Health field. The ultimate aim must be the provision of a separate home for every family, not after a long wait in apartments or in a sub-standard dwelling, but immediately after marriage. Once this is possible the housing problem will have been virtually solved. Unfortunately at the moment, the building of houses is scarcely keeping pace with the number of new housing applicants continually being added to the list. Until this aim has been achieved, many people must continue to live in apartments or in dwellings which by modern standards are most unsuitable.

The average annual rainfall in this district, during the past 10 years, was over 70 inches. This emphasises the need to make the most of the sunshine available. This can only be achieved by paying special attention to the problem of atmospheric pollution and by taking all practical means to reduce this evil.

The number of notifications of infectious diseases during the year under review show no unusual trend with the exception of those for paratyphoid "B" fever. In July, August and September an outbreak of this disease occurred in the area of the Pontardawe Rural District. 36 cases were notified and 30 of these were subsequently confirmed as being positive cases. The outbreak was mainly confined to the Ystalyfera area (Alltygrug Ward) where 22 of the 30 cases occurred. There were 5 cases in the Blaenegel and Mawr Ward and 2 in Cilybebyll. There was a single case in Godre'r-graig Ward. No confirmed cases occurred in the remaining six wards. There were no deaths. Seventeen of these confirmed cases were treated in hospital. Twenty-four of the cases were notified during July.

The outbreak was part of a larger one involving the whole of South Wales where between April and the end of the year, 575 cases occurred with 5 deaths. These cases were distributed over the areas of six administrative counties and four county boroughs. As the Pontardawe outbreak was apparently a part of this larger one, it is interesting to note that although no individual item of food and no individual establishment was incriminated as the initial source of the outbreak, the South Wales outbreak seemed to be associated with bakehouses. Many hundreds of samples of food were examined but not a single sample showed the presence of the infecting organism. The same can be said of the lesser Pontardawe outbreak. No definite source of infection was discovered.

As soon as the nature of the outbreak became apparent, the Public Health Department commenced investigations, working in close liason with neighbouring authorities and with the general practitioners in the area. Firstly attention was turned to the water supplies of the area involved. Samples taken from the water supply proved negative. All the water used for domestic purposes in the area involved is also supplied to a far wider area where no cases of paratyphoid occurred. There was no evidence that the waters of the river Tawe or of the Tawe Valley canal were in any way associated with the outbreak. The water of the only swimming bath in the affected part of the district was sampled and found to be negative. It was adequately chlorinated and there was no evidence whatever of any case being associated with it.

Similarly, the milk supply of the area was found not to be connected with the outbreak. The vast majority of people drank pasteurised milk and pasteurisation was proved to be adequate. Milk from the same main supply was retailed in other parts of the rural district where no cases occurred. The persons affected by the disease obtained their milk from a number of different retailers thus finally eliminating the possibility of the outbreak being milkborne. Confections and other foods remained to be investigated. Icecream was found to be satisfactory. Samples were negative and no evidence pointed to its involvement as a source of infection. The possibility of infection from shellfish (cockles) was also disproved. Cakes and pastries were investigated along the same lines as in other South Wales outbreaks and no infected sample was discovered.

No case was notified after September and the source of infection in the Pontardawe outbreak was, in common with that of the South Wales outbreak as a whole, never demonstrated.

Dr. D. H. J. Williams was Medical Officer of Health for Pontardawe Rural District Council for the greater part of 1952 but during the last three months of the year your Authority was without a Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. M. DAVIES
Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Chairman of the Public
Health Committee .. Councillor JOHN DAVIES, J.P.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health .. Dr. D. H. J. WILLIAMS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Part Year)

Senior Sanitary Inspector .. IEUAN LEWIS, M.S.I.A.,
C.R.S.I. (Meat and Other
Foods)

Additional Sanitary .. G. A. REES, M.S.I.A.
Inspectors D. J. DAVIES, M.S.I.A.,
C.R.S.I. (Meat and Other
Foods)

Administrative and Clerical :

Senior Assistant .. JOHN ROGERS
H. WYNNE JONES, MARY E. DAVIES
A.R.San.I., A.I.Hsg. GAYNOR JONES
RUFUS THOMAS
ELWYN LEWIS

SECTION A—STATISTICS.

Area as given in Ordnance Maps.. 34,969 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate
of Population .. 32,110

Rateable Value .. £127,277.

Sum represented by a Penny
Rate .. £470

Birth Rate per R.G.'s Birth .. 14.98 per 1000 estimated
figures civilian population.

Live Birth Rate per R.G.'s .. 14.57 per 1,000 estimated
Birth figures civilian population.

Still Birth Rate per R.G.'s .. 27.03 per 1,000 live and
Still-Birth figures still-births.

Death Rate .. 13.30 per 1,000 estimated
civilian population.

Deaths from Maternal Causes (Heading No. 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :

	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 live and still births per Registrar- General's figures</i>
No. 30 Pregnancy, Childbirth		
Abortion	1	2.08
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births		32.05
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..		26.49
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..		200.00
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ..	66	
Death from Measles (all ages) ..	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil	
Deaths from Gastro-Enteritis (under 2 years) ..	5	

ANNUAL REPORT UNDER THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M.C. line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	21	17	1	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	101	57	6	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL		122	74	7	Nil	

2.—Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ..	4	4	4	—	3	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2.) ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—							
(a) Insufficient ..	9	2	2	—	2	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	10	5	5	—	1	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	11	2	2	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL ..	60	13	13	—	6	—	60

PART VIII OF THE ACT—OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	SECTION 110			SECTION 111			M/c line No. (9)
		No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council (4)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (5)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (6)	Notices Served (7)	Prose- cutions (8)	
Wearing Apparel making, etc. ..	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and Washing ..	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Report Under the Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

Under the above Acts your Council is responsible for duties in connection with both power and non-power factories.

Developments over the years have reduced the number of non-power factories and increased those that use motive power in their work.

The factories in the area as indicated in the schedule were supervised with regard to the health provisions for which this Authority is responsible and liaison was maintained with H.M. Inspector of Factories.

VITAL STATISTICS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1952, CLASSIFIED BY AGES, CAUSES AND LOCALITIES.

Code No.	Causes of Death	Sex	Total	AGE GROUPS								PARISH OR WARD									
				Under 1 Yr.	1 - 4 Yrs.	5 - 14 Yrs.	15 - 24 Yrs.	25 - 44 Yrs.	45 - 64 Yrs.	65 - 74 Yrs.	Over 75 years	Rhyn delyd	Cell	Mawr	Ynis	Cil	B. & M.	God.	Allt.	Cwm.	Cae.
1.	Respiratory Tuberculosis	M.	13	—	—	—	—	2	8	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	3	1	3	1	3
2.	Other Tuberculosis ..	F.	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm— Stomach	M.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
11.	Malignant Neoplasm— Lung, Bronchus ..	F.	9	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	2	1	1	—
11.	Malignant Neoplasm— Lung, Bronchus ..	M.	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
12.	Malignant Neoplasm— Breast	F.	12	—	—	—	—	—	8	4	—	7	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
12.	Malignant Neoplasm— Breast	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Malignant Neoplasm— Uterus	F.	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	F.	4	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
16.	Diabetes ..	M.	14	—	—	—	—	1	7	5	1	3	—	—	—	2	3	2	3	1	—
16.	Diabetes ..	F.	17	—	—	—	—	1	5	9	2	3	2	1	—	1	3	3	2	—	2
17.	Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	M.	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—
17.	Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	F.	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
18.	Coronary Disease, angina	M.	26	1	—	—	—	—	9	10	5	6	—	1	—	5	4	—	3	1	6
18.	Coronary Disease, angina	F.	37	2	—	—	—	—	7	8	20	9	3	3	—	4	3	4	7	—	4
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	M.	29	—	—	—	—	3	10	12	4	4	4	2	1	4	5	2	2	—	5
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	F.	10	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	3	1	2	—	1	2	1	1	1	1	3
20.	Other Heart Disease	M.	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20.	Other Heart Disease	F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20.	Other Heart Disease	M.	25	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	13	2	1	1	—	2	10	—	3	2	4

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1952.

	Esti- mated Popula- tion 1952	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY		NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	
		Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation	Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
England and Wales	..		15.3		11.3		27.60		18.90
Administrative County	..	11839	16.16	8,473	11.57	407	34.38	247	20.86
Urban Districts	..	8,760	16.49	6 362	11.98	314	35.84	191	21.80
Rural Districts	..	3,079	15.30	2,111	10.49	93	30.20	56	18.19
Health Division.									
Constituent Districts.									
Aberdare and Mountain Ash	40,550	571	14.08	578	14.25	21	36.78	13	22.77
Mountain Ash Urban	31,200	570	18.27	381	12.21	29	50.88	14	24.56
Caerphilly and Gelligaer	35,700	717	20.08	379	10.62	30	41.84	17	23.71
Gelligaer Urban	36,040	629	17.45	433	12.01	20	31.80	14	22.26
Mid Glamorgan	13,650	221	16.19	151	11.06	4	18.10	4	18.10
Bridgend Urban	..								
Maesteg Urban	23,010	423	18.38	269	11.69	11	26.00	5	11.82
Ogmore & Garw Urban	22,550	395	17.52	262	11.62	26	65.82	16	40.51
Porthcawl Urban	9,497	130	13.69	118	12.42	3	23.08	3	23.08
Penybont Rural	34,890	530	15.19	315	9.03	11	20.75	6	11.32

Neath and District	Neath M.B.	31,660	466	14.72	352	11.12	14	30.04	10	21.46
	Neath Rural	41,250	637	15.44	439	10.64	12	18.84	5	7.85
Pontypridd and Llantrisant	Llantrisant Rural	25,420	519	20.42	268	10.54	28	53.95	20	38.54
	Pontypridd Urban	38,340	565	14.74	461	12.02	15	26.55	6	10.62
Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg	Glyncoirwg Urban	9,388	216	23.01	95	10.12	5	23.15	4	18.52
	Port Talbot M.B.	44,190	826	18.69	423	9.57	24	29.06	15	18.16
South East Glamorgan	Barry M.B.	40,790	717	17.58	486	11.91	24	33.47	13	18.13
	Cardiff Rural	35,930	433	12.05	383	10.66	11	25.40	7	16.17
	Cowbridge M.B.	1,035	17	16.43	12	11.59	—	—	—	—
	Cowbridge Rural	20,120	295	14.66	140	6.96	9	30.51	6	20.34
	Penarth Urban	18,420	266	14.44	239	12.98	8	30.08	6	22.56
West Glamorgan	Gower Rural	11,580	197	17.01	139	12.00	7	35.53	5	25.38
	Llwchwr Urban	25,380	319	12.57	306	12.06	12	37.62	8	25.08
	Pontardawe Rural	32,110	468	14.57	427	13.30	15	32.05	7	14.96
Rhondda	Rhondda Urban	109,800	1,712	15.59	1,417	12.91	68	39.72	43	25.12

ENGLAND AND WALES—VITAL STATISTICS, 1952.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1952. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

				<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)</i>	<i>160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)</i>	<i>London Administrative County</i>
Births							
Live births	..	..	..	15.30	<i>Rates per 1,000 Home Population</i>	15.50	17.60
Still births ..	..	..	..	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34
				22.60(a)	24.60(a)	23.00(a)	19.20(a)
Deaths							
All causes ..	..	..	..	11.30	12.10	11.20	12.60
Typhoid and paratyphoid	..	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping cough ..	..	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	..	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31
Influenza	..	..	..	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05
Smallpox	..	..	..	0.00	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis)	..	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	..	..	..	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58

Notifications (Corrected)	..	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00
Typhoid Fever ..	..	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	..	..	..	0.02	0.03	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	..	..	..	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	1.53	1.75	1.56
Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	2.61	2.74	1.66
Diphtheria	..	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.01
Erysipelas	..	..	..	0.14	0.15	0.14
Smallpox	..	..	..	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	..	..	..	8.86	10.11	9.23
Pneumonia	..	..	..	0.72	0.80	0.57
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis)	..	..	Paralytic	0.06	0.06	0.06
			Non-paralytic	0.03	0.02	0.03
			..	0.13	0.11	0.18
Food Poisoning ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	17.87(a)	23.94(a)	30.77(a)
Deaths—						
All causes under 1 year of age	..	..	..	27.60(b)	<i>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</i> 31.20	23.80
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	..	..	..	1.10	1.30	0.70

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Intermediate List No. and cause		Number of Deaths	Rates per 1000 Total (Live & Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
A115	Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	61	0.09	—
A116	Abortion with toxæmia	13	0.02	1
	Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	147	0.21	—
A117	Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	59	0.09	—
A118	Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	31	0.04	3
A119	Abortion with sepsis	47	0.07	5
A120	Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	138	0.20	—

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE, 1952

Cause	Sex		R'Clydach	Gell.	Mawr	Ynis.	Cil.	B. & M.	God.	Allt.	Cwm.	Cae.
	M.	F.										
Fractured Vertebrae—Industrial	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fractured Vertebrae—Fall	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fractured Skull—Industrial	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Fractured Femur—Domestic Accident	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
Gunshot Wounds—Accidental	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accident to Kidney	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Drowning—Misadventure	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Accidental Electrocution	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	8	2	2	—	1	—	3	—	1	1	1	1

SUICIDE. 1952

Cause	Sex		R'Clydach	Gell.	Mawr.	Ynis.	Cil.	B. & M.	God.	Allt.	Cwm.	Cae.
	M.	F.										
Drowning	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS, 1952

Cause	Sex.		R'Clydach	Gell.	Mawr.	Ynis.	Cil.	B. & M.	God.	Allt.	Cwm.	Cae.
	M.	F.										
Motor Vehicle accidents	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

DEATHS IN VARIOUS MONTHS, 1952

Month			Males	Females	Total
JANUARY ..	..	..	32	23	55
FEBRUARY ..	..	..	26	14	40
MARCH ..	..	..	23	17	40
APRIL ..	..	..	16	22	38
MAY ..	..	..	24	8	32
JUNE ..	..	..	18	11	29
JULY ..	..	..	22	20	42
AUGUST ..	..	..	12	8	20
SEPTEMBER ..	..	..	12	20	32
OCTOBER ..	..	..	13	15	28
NOVEMBER..	..	..	12	14	26
DECEMBER ..	..	..	25	20	45
TOTALS ..	..	..	235	192	427

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The City and County Laboratory, Cardiff, undertakes the analysis of all water, milk and icecream samples together with such pathological specimens as are necessary. Analysis of samples in connection with atmospheric pollution were also carried out at Cardiff. Where urgent results are necessary use is made of the Beck Laboratory, Swansea.

As reported elsewhere in this Report the outbreak of paratyphoid during the summer of the year under review required examination to be carried out of a great number of specimens. Close liaison was maintained with the Cardiff Laboratory and their assistance was much appreciated.

Samples taken:

WATER :

Bacteriological Examination ..	36
Chemical Analysis	22

MILK :

Bacteriological Examination ..	57
--------------------------------	----

ICECREAM :

Bacteriological Examination ..	20
Chemical Analysis	20

SEWAGE :

Sewage Analysis	Nil
Effluent Analysis	Nil

PARATYPHOID B :

Pathological Specimens ..	70
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(b) Welfare Services, Hospital and Ambulance Services.

The Welfare and Ambulance Services are the responsibility of the Glamorgan County Authority while the Glantawe Hospital Management Committee administer the two hospitals within our area.

The transfer of the Ambulance Control Centre to Ynisderw House effected during last year has worked satisfactorily in practice.

Close co-operation exists between the Health Department of this Authority and the local offices of the County Council's Welfare Services as very often particularly in the case of problems affecting aged persons it is necessary for co-operative action to be taken.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The Cray Reservoir owned by Swansea Corporation is the main source of water supply for the area particularly for the Swansea Valley itself. This supply is augmented in various parts of the area by mountain streams which flow to tanks. Most of these tanks are so constructed as to receive both the local and Cray Supplies as occasion demands. Local Authority mains and mains water supplies and tanks are maintained by the Council's Engineer and Water Department.

The chemical analysis and bacteriological examination of the Council's various water supplies showed them to be generally satisfactory. There was no evidence in any instance of contamination by lead and the supplies are satisfactory for both quantity and quality.

Very few houses in the area are without a piped water supply, these few being so situated in outlying districts as to make communication impracticable.

Pollution of River and Streams.

The creation of Rivers Boards throughout the country has made rivers pollution the responsibility of these bodies. The South West Wales Rivers Board is responsible for part of this area up to the East bank of the River Tawe. Details of action taken by your Council in the past have been made available to this new body and close liaison is being maintained with the Rivers Board Officers on the matter.

Disinfestation.

(a) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of (1) Council Houses	(i) Infested	..	11
	(ii) Disinfested	..	11
Number of (2) Other Houses	(i) Infested	..	13
	(ii) Disinfested	..	13

(b) Methods Employed for Disinfesting Houses.

The most effective method of disinfestation is found to be the direct application of D.D.T. The use of hydrogen cyanide whilst extremely effective is also highly dangerous and precautions have to be taken to render the method less preferable to D.D.T. save where large numbers of infestations have to be carried out. Disinfestation of articles is, where necessary, carried out at the centre at Ynisderw House. This method is gaseous in operation and is found to be effective.

Sewage and Sewage Effluent.

The transfer of Rivers Pollution functions from the County Council to the Rivers Board has been mentioned in the previous pages. Copies of sewage effluent analyses were received for information purposes from the County Council when that body was responsible but it is not thought likely that the Rivers Board will supply such copies.

As your Council is responsible for the efficient purification of its sewage the Department intends to take samples of effluent at intervals in order that this information might be available to your Council's officers if required. As reported to your Council by the Engineer the existing points were designed to meet the needs of a lower level of pollution. The extension of sewerage schemes hereafter referred to and the extension of water supply schemes to private houses undertaken by your Council in the past years has caused an increase in the volume of sewage to be dealt with. The Engineer is of the opinion that this volume can only be efficiently dealt with by the construction of a new trunk sewer.

Development of Sewerage Schemes.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Description of Works</i>	<i>Contract Price</i>	<i>Position at 31st Dec., 1952</i>
Llanguicke	Rhydyfro Privy Conversion Scheme	10,985 [£]	Nearing Completion.
Cilybebyll	Rhos Privy Conversion Scheme	13,012	Nearing Completion.
Mawr	Craigcefnparc Sewerage Scheme	56,118	Work Proceeding

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

House Inspection.

Details of housing inspection for the year under review will be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's section of this Report. The details indicate the action taken, the purpose for which taken and also discusses the problems met with in obtaining alleviation of defective housing conditions in the post war years.

Report On Rehousing Activity during Post War Years and Future Housing Needs.

The figures shown in the following schedules have been prepared to show what has been achieved during the post war years and in order that they may be of some guidance regarding the future housing needs of the Area.

The available information has been set out in four tables, three of which deal with what has already been achieved while the other illustrates the present position.

The tables are self explanatory but it is desired to offer a few comments on each.

TABLE I. ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS REHOUSED—
SUMMARY TO THE END OF 1952.

It will be seen that 698 families had been rehoused up to 31st December, 1952, and that this figure included a wide variety of types, whether we refer to occupations, housing conditions of applicants or the health of their families.

TABLE II. ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS REHOUSED
DURING 1952.

The total of 116 families rehoused during the year 1952 shows 20 applicants to have been rehoused in casual vacancies and 96 in new houses.

The figure of 44 for people rehoused who were living in separate homes is higher than usual because advantage was taken of opportunities to take action under the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of individual unfit houses.

TABLE III. ANALYSIS OF THE WAITING LIST,
31ST DECEMBER, 1952.

It is of interest to report that the Waiting List for rehousing in December, 1949, was 1,129, while the figure at the end of 1952, as is shown in this table, was 1,213. This figure of 1,213 is not considered to be an inflated one as all the applications now on our active list have been received within the last two years.

The significant figures in this table are the very high number of apartment dwellers, the large number of one bedroom type families, composed in the main of young married couples, and the large number of 2 bedroom type families.

ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS RE-HOUSED. TABLE I.

SUMMARY, 1946—1952.

WARD OF RESIDENCE	OCCUPATIONS						CONDITIONS OF APPLICANTS										Applicants who were		REHOUSED IN		
	Mines	Agriculture	Steel	Tin	Building	Others	Total Families Rehoused	Disabled Ex- Service Men	Other Ex- Service Men	T. B. Cases	Cases of other Illness	Living in Unfit Houses			All Other Cases	Living in Apartments	Living in Separate Homes	New Houses	Other Accom.	Casual Vacancies	
								Subject to Action under Housing Act	Subject to Informal Action	Living in											
Rhyn.	74	—	16	12	4	100	206	6	61	14	37	5	1	82	180	26	172	4	30		
Gell.	4	—	10	9	1	16	40	—	9	7	5	7	—	12	23	17	25	3	12		
Mawr	30	—	—	—	1	16	47	—	9	1	7	2	—	28	31	16	40	—	7		
Ynis.	4	1	1	—	—	7	13	—	1	—	5	—	—	7	7	6	12	—	1		
Cil.	10	1	9	10	4	31	65	4	13	13	13	5	—	17	39	26	58	—	7		
B. & M.	17	—	16	13	—	53	99	—	21	18	22	2	2	34	68	31	88	1	10		
God.	27	—	—	5	—	15	47	1	7	6	5	5	1	22	32	15	41	—	6		
Allt.	30	—	1	5	2	22	60	1	15	14	11	7	1	11	43	17	36	2	22		
Cwm.	30	—	—	—	1	15	46	—	6	4	4	13	3	16	24	22	39	—	7		
Cae.	44	—	1	5	—	25	75	1	13	9	14	1	2	35	60	15	66	—	9		
TOTALS	270	2	54	59	13	300	698	13	155	86	123	47	10	264	507	191	577	10	111		

TABLE II. ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS RE-HOUSED. SUMMARY DURING 1952.

WARD OF RESIDENCE	Occupations					Condition of Applicants							Applicants who were			NOTES	REHOUSED IN		
	Mines	Agriculture	Steel	Tin	Building	Others	Total Families Re-Housed	Disabled Ex-Service Men	Other Ex-Service Men	T.B. Cases	Cases of Other Illness	Living in Unfit Houses			Living in Apartments	Living in Separate Homes	New Houses	Other Accom.	Casual Vacancies
												Subject to Action under Housing Act	Subject to Informal Action	All Other Cases					
Rhyn.	3	—	1	—	1	4	9	1	4	2	2	—	—	—	7	2	—	—	9
Gell.	—	—	2	5	1	4	12	—	2	2	2	3	—	3	8	4	11	—	1
Mawr	6	—	—	—	1	1	8	—	1	—	3	2	—	2	6	2	6	—	2
Ynis.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cil.	5	—	1	5	4	7	22	2	3	5	6	2	—	4	11	11	20	—	2
B. & M.	—	—	3	4	—	10	17	—	1	5	5	—	1	5	11	6	16	—	1
God.	1	—	—	3	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	3	1	4	—	—
Allt.	9	—	1	3	2	7	22	—	7	4	6	2	—	3	17	5	18	—	4
Cwm.	17	—	—	—	—	4	21	—	3	1	1	7	1	8	9	12	21	—	—
Cae.	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL	41	—	8	21	9	37	116	3	22	19	26	17	2	27	72	44	96	—	20
Add previous Years	229	2	46	38	4	263	582	10	133	67	97	30	8	237	435	147	481	10	91
Total to Year End	270	2	54	59	13	300	698	13	155	86	123	47	10	264	507	191	577	10	111

ANALYSIS OF WAITING LIST—31st DECEMBER, 1952.

TABLE III.

WARD	Number of Ap- plicants	Employment					Living in		Type of House Required				
		Agricul- ture	Mines	Tin	Steel	Build- ing	Others	Apart- ments	Separate Homes + O/C Pts.	1 Br.	2 Br.	3 Br.	4 Br.
Clydach	236	1	59	14	14	19	129	165	23	71	122	37	6
Gellionen	98	—	21	8	16	6	47	58	11	18	60	16	4
Mawr	36	—	17	2	1	2	14	25	1	19	13	4	—
Ynisymond	28	—	9	3	2	1	13	13	2	13	10	4	1
Cilybebyll	131	3	15	24	15	14	60	61	13	35	69	26	1
Blaenegel & Mawr	202	—	40	32	33	15	82	122	18	61	115	25	1
Godrergraig	87	—	37	9	1	5	35	43	9	23	46	16	2
Allytgrug	159	1	72	4	5	4	73	92	21	33	87	35	4
Cwmllynfell	70	—	45	—	—	1	24	36	3	16	40	12	2
Caegurwen	166	—	90	3	1	7	65	123	13	29	103	32	2
TOTAL	1213	5	405	99	88	74	542	738	114	318	665	207	23
Outside Area	55	—	15	4	1	1	34	37	7	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV.

SUMMARY OF REHOUSING ACTIVITY AND
EFFECT ON WAITING LIST DURING 1952.

This table shows that although 116 applicants were rehoused, the waiting list increased by 131 during the year since 247 applications were received during the same period.

SUMMARY OF REHOUSING ACTIVITIES AND EFFECT ON
WAITING LIST DURING 1952

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Number Rehoused</i>	<i>Waiting List Reduced by</i>	<i>Waiting List Increased by</i>
Clydach	9	—	45
Gellionen	12	2	—
Mawr	8	—	7
Ynisymond	—	—	7
Cilybebyll	22	—	5
Blaenegel & Mawr ..	17	—	29
Godrergrraig	4	—	15
Alltygrug	22	—	4
Cwmllynfell	21	9	—
Caegurwen	1	—	30
TOTALS	116	11	142

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK. SUMMARY OF REGISTRATIONS UNDER THE MILK REGULATIONS.

<i>Purpose for which Registered</i>	<i>Parish of</i>					<i>Sources from Outside Area</i>	<i>Total Registered.</i>
	<i>Rhyn-dwy-clydach</i>	<i>Llan-guicke</i>	<i>Cily-bebyll</i>	<i>Ynisy-mond</i>	<i>Mawr</i>		
Distributors ..	5	13	1	—	1	3	23
Dairies ..	5	12	1	—	1	—	19
Dealers—Accredited Milk ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dealers—Tuberculin Tested Milk ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Dealers—Pasteurised Milk ..	6	17	2	1	2	—	28
Dealers—Sterilised Milk ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Supplementary Licences—All Milks	—	—	—	—	—	16	16
Total Registrations	17	43	5	1	4	19	89

Milk Supply.

The Department has during the year administered the Milk Regulations 1949, and the associated Regulations governing specially designated milk.

The trend towards a specially designated product is increasingly apparent and is welcomed from the public health standpoint. It is true to say that most of the milk now sold in the area of this authority is either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or T.T./Pasteurised.

Milk Samples.

The results of analysis of samples taken during the year and sent to the laboratory at Cardiff are as follows :

<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>% Satisfactory</i>
City and County Laboratory, Cardiff Bacteriological Examination ..	57	54	3	94.7

Icecream.

SUMMARY OF REGISTRATIONS (FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938, SECTION 14).

<i>Purposes for which Registered</i>	<i>Parish or Ward</i>										<i>Total Registered</i>
	<i>Clyd.</i>	<i>Gell.</i>	<i>Mawr</i>	<i>Ynis.</i>	<i>Cil.</i>	<i>B.&M.</i>	<i>God.</i>	<i>Allt.</i>	<i>Cwm.</i>	<i>Cae.</i>	
Manufacture and Sale :											
(i) Complete Cold Mix	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
(ii) Hot Mix	1	2	—	—	—	4	3	4	2	4	20
Sale :											
(i) Prepacked	11	5	4	—	1	12	4	15	4	11	67
(ii) Loose	6	1	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	1	13
Total Registered	19	8	4	—	1	19	9	19	6	16	101

Icecream Samples.

The results of analysis of samples taken during the year and sent to the laboratory at Cardiff are as follows :

<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>% Unsatisfactory</i>
City and County Laboratory, Cardiff Bacteriological Examination	20	17	3	85

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR EACH MONTH, 1952.

Disease	Janu- ary	Feb- ruary	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sep- tember	Octo- ber	Novem- ber	Decem- ber	Total
Scarlet Fever	3	2	4	1	1	1	6	1	4	3	—	4	30
Pneumonia	2	3	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	12
Measles	2	—	3	5	2	1	11	9	20	11	8	13	85
Whooping Cough	1	—	1	—	2	2	2	3	5	8	1	1	26
Erysipelas	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	4	2	—	—	—	30
Sonne Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	8	5	11	7	7	5	44	19	31	22	11	20	190

**PARTICULARS OF INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS
DURING THE YEAR 1952.**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total</i>	WARD OR PARISH								<i>Cae- gwr- wen</i>	<i>Number of Cases shown admitted to Hospital</i>
		<i>Clyd- ach</i>	<i>Gelli- onen</i>	<i>Mawr</i>	<i>Ynisy- mond</i>	<i>Cily- bebyll</i>	<i>B. & M.</i>	<i>God- rer- grai</i>	<i>Allt-y- grug</i>	<i>Cwm- llyn- fell</i>	
Scarlet Fever ..	30	15	—	—	—	7	3	1	1	1	9
Pneumonia ..	12	—	1	—	—	3	7	—	1	—	1
Measles ..	85	31	5	2	—	16	24	3	3	1	—
Whooping Cough ..	26	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	12	2	—
Erysipelas ..	4	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid B. ..	30	—	—	—	—	2	5	1	22	—	17
Sonne Dysentery ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ..	190	48	6	3	—	29	44	11	39	4	30

CANCER DEATHS 1952.

Total	Site	Sex	Age Groups			Ward or Parish										
			25-45	45-65	65 +	Clydach	Gelli-onen	Mawr	Ynis y-mond	Cilybebyll	Blaen-egel & Mawr	God-rer-graig	Allt-y-grug	Cwm-lyn-fell	Caegurwen	
1	Lymphogranuloma	M.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
1	Cerebrum ..	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Cranium ..	M	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1		F	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Right Eye ..	M	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1		F	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Oesophagus	M	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1		F	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Pylorus ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1		F	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Stomach ..	M	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
2		F	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	Liver ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Head of Pancreas	M	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2		F	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Bowel ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Colon ..	M	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6		F	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Rectum ..	M	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
2		F	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGES	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 years ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years ..	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
15—24 years ..	4	4	2	1	—	1	—	—
25—34 years ..	2	7	1	1	1	—	—	1
35—44 years ..	2	3	—	1	1	1	—	—
45—54 years ..	8	—	—	1	3	1	—	—
55—64 years ..	3	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
65 and upwards ..	3	1	1	—	3	—	—	—
Totals ..	23	15	7	7	13	3	—	1

Rate of Incidence of New Cases : 1.62 per 1,000 civilian population.

Death Rate from this Disease : 0.53 per 1,000 civilian population.

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE YEAR 1952.

Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory and Non-Respiratory
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	Total
145	126	271	44	49	93	364

Rate of Incidence : 11.26 per 1,000 civilian population.

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR 1952.

Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory and Non-Respiratory
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	Total
153	135	288	46	50	96	384

Rate of Incidence : 11.96 per 1,000 civilian population.

RAINFALL IN 1952—AT WERN HOUSE, YSTALYFERA

<i>Month</i>	<i>Total Depth</i>	<i>Greatest fall in 24 hours</i>		<i>Number of days with .01 or more recorded</i>
	INCHES	DATE	INCHES	
January	8.48	31st	2.06	22
February	1.80	11th	.69	12
March	5.65	7th	1.69	15
April	4.42	5th	.72	16
May	4.64	11th	.94	16
June	4.64	6th	1.39	11
July	2.50	8th	.90	8
August	6.91	5th	1.74	17
September ..	3.09	25th	.75	16
October	6.10	28th	1.28	18
November	5.36	5th	1.94	16
December	5.99	26th	.77	22
Totals ..	59.58			189

RAIN GAUGE :

Diameter of Funnel .. 5 inches.

Height of top .. Above ground, 1 foot, 6 inches
Above Sea Level, 240 feet.

We are again indebted to Miss Lily Williams of Wern House, Ystalyfera, for the figures given in this table, and it is therefore desired to take advantage of this occasion to thank her for continuing to submit these records to the Department from year to year.

SENIOR SANITARY AND SHOPS' INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1952.

MR. CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1952.

A perusal of the report itself will indicate that work during the year has proceeded in accordance with the main functions exercised by your inspectorate. Housing continues to exercise much of the time of inspection but while the conditions of houses are continually being improved through repair many properties can only be satisfactorily dealt with through major reconstruction or demolition.

Little change has occurred in the refuse collection organization and the work proceeds along the lines outlined in the table attached to that section of this Report.

The instruments purchased last year by your Authority for the purpose of recording atmospheric pollution have been well used during the year and the extent of the pollution previously caused is now accurately determinable.

These matters together with other details concerning food hygiene, rodent destruction and shops inspection are a matter for more extensive comment in the report.

PART 1.—GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH.

Inspections for the Year 1952.

(a) All types of premises under Public Health and Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	3,234
(b) Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	216
(c) Dairies, Milkshops, etc.	..	..	..	..	38
(d) Factories and Workplaces	..	..	..	..	139
(e) Verminous Premises	..	..	..	..	127
(f) Miscellaneous (including Food Stores and Butchers' Shops)	..	..	..	..	614
(g) Inspections under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1950	..	..	..	..	245
(h) Inspections under Shops Act, 1950	..	..	..	..	273
(i) Inspections of Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	48

REFUSE COLLECTION, 1952.

District No.	ORGANISATION				VEHICLES AND PERSONNEL			
	Area Served	No. of Houses Served	Frequency of Collection	Disposal Points	Make of Vehicle	Type and Body	Date of First Registration	No. of Personnel
1	CLYDACH All Clydach to Mond Works	1,775	Main Roads daily Monday to Friday. Business Premises daily including Saturdays. Other Roads 3 times per week.	Rhyddwen, Craigeinparc	Ford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	6/6/46	3
2	ALLTWEN AND CLYDACH Clydach from Mond to Trebanos Bon Marche. Alltwen. Glais.	1,775	Do.	Do.	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	29/6/50	3
3	PONTARDAWE Bon Marche, Swansea Road Trebanos to Pontardawe Cross. Rhydyfro. Ynysmeudwy up to Jubilee Stores plus Maesycoced, Pendarren. All Pontardawe	1,621	Do.	Off Brecon Road	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	20/4/48	3
4	YSTALYFERA Cwmtwrch. Godregraig down to Jubilee Stores, plus all side streets.	1,663	Do.	Alltygrug	Bedford	2/3 ton 5 cu. yard all steel covered body	26/3/46	3
5	GWAUNCAEGURWEN Whole of the Caegurwen Ward.	1,547	Do.	Off Brynamman Road	Bedford	2/3 ton 7 cu. yard all steel covered body	20/10/46	3
General Replacement	All areas as required during emergencies.				Bedford	5 ton open	17/8/42	

Public Cleansing.

(a) REFUSE COLLECTION.

(i) DIRECT LABOUR COLLECTION.

The accompanying table indicates the direct labour refuse collection system. It will be seen that all main roads where that system operates are collected daily and no house in those areas is collected less than three times per week.

The reorganisation effected in 1950 has worked satisfactorily during the year. Reference must be made to the difficulties of collection experienced over private roads that are in a bad condition. It is difficult to see what can be done especially as it is not desired to retrogress by discontinuing collections.

(ii) REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The main disposal points are indicated in the preceding table. Reference was made in the previous report to the need for establishing a disposal point within the Alltwen area. It has proved difficult to find such a site during this year for the satisfactory site must satisfy the three points of economic development, distance from houses and accessibility. The suggestion of utilising a disused pit shaft in this area is being investigated at the present time and if practicable should materially reduce disposal distance for the lorry concerned.

The disposal of refuse at the Rhyddwen site has proceeded satisfactorily and will no doubt be of considerable benefit to that district when completed. During the year levelling has been carried out at the Brynamman Rugby Field and at Ystalyfera.

LITTER.

Your Council has during the year authorised the purchase of bins for the deposition of litter in the streets. These bins should materially assist in reducing the amount of litter found in the town centres at weekends. Some difficulty, however, is anticipated in finding suitable positions where your Authority will be permitted to attach the bins concerned.

(iii) CONTRACTS.

Contractors are still employed for collection of refuse at Velindre, Garnswllt, Cwmlllynfell and Rhiwfawr. The inclusion of these areas in a direct labour scheme is considered uneconomic unless contract prices rise considerably.

(b) NIGHT SOIL REMOVAL.

This work is carried out by Contractors in the following areas :

<i>Area</i>	<i>No. of Pails Removed during year 1952</i>	
Cilybebyll	2,927	
Rhydyfro	1,910	
Rhiwfawr	1,622	
Ynysymond	5,378	
Craigcefnparc	14,122	
	<hr/>	
	25,959	
	<hr/>	

The collection in the Rhiwfawr area is in respect of that portion not included in the sewerage scheme. The considerable reduction in the Cilybebyll and Rhydyfro areas is due to sewerage schemes having been completed in those districts during the year concerned. With the completion of the Craigcefnparc sewerage scheme an exceedingly high portion of the area will be sewered.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

The factories and workplaces of the area have been given attention during the year. While some of our factories are of the heavy industrial type the definition of " factory " in the Factories Act brings most premises where work is carried on within our jurisdiction.

It is the function of the authority to deal with health provisions in all factories where there is no mechanical power and with water supply certification, sanitary accommodation and means of escape in case of fire for factories employing mechanical power.

Workplaces are also the responsibility of your Council mainly from the point of ventilation. During 1952 a complete survey was made of all factories and where necessary instructions given to the owners or occupiers for the carrying out of any works required.

The questions of rodent destruction at factories and clean food handling at factory canteens are dealt with in the appropriate sections of this Report.

Rodent Destruction.

The above service was fully maintained during 1952 and the work carried out is reviewed and classified according to the type of premises involved.

RODENT DESTRUCTION, 1952.

Ward/Parish	Premises Treated, Including Refuse Tips, Brooks, River Banks				Sewer Baiting		Combined Figures		
	No. Treated	No. of Baiting Points	No. of Baits Laid	Estimated Kill	No. of Manholes Treated	No. of Baits Laid	Total Premises and Manholes Treated	Total No. of Baiting Points	Total Baits Laid
Clydach	12	198	792	233	472	1416	484	670	2208
Gellionen	11	188	752	204	178	534	189	366	1286
Mawr	—	—	—	—	Joint treatment with Blaenegel & Mawr & Rhyn-dwyclydach		—	—	—
Ynisymond	7	135	540	148	No Sewer available		7	135	540
Gilybebyll	17	276	1104	353	—	—	17	276	1104
Blaenegel & Mawr	34	665	2660	616	446	1338	480	1111	3998
Godrergrai	19	313	1252	390	105	315	124	418	1567
					Joint Treatment with Alltygrug & Blaenegel & Mawr				
Alltygrug	37	597	2388	679	326	978	363	923	3366
Cwmllynfell	3	103	412	124	—	—	3	103	412
Caegurwen	32	635	2540	537	418	1254	450	1053	3794
TOTALS	172	3110	12440	3284	1945	5835	2117	5055	18275

(a) PRIVATE PREMISES.

Complaints from all sources were dealt with and advice given to householders in order to prevent recurrence. Infestations were in the main of minor degree and of recent occurrence. These premises were treated without charge to the occupier.

Where it was thought that surface infestations were due to sewer infestations care was taken to ensure that house drains and inspection chambers were in a sound condition.

(b) BUSINESS PREMISES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

A number of business premises were treated and the occupiers charged on a basis of total cost plus 10% administrative charge. This scale of charges is approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries who pay 50% of all rodent destruction costs after business premises costs have been deducted.

All the works and collieries in the area now call upon your Council's services. The one industrial firm in the locality previously served by private contract has now requested future services to be undertaken by the Local Authority.

(c) SEWERS.

All sewers in the area are treated twice per annum, in or about January and July. The extra labour required for the few weeks of each treatment is recruited locally. As, however the accurate assessment of bait "take" requires some experience, serious consideration is at present being given to an alternative system whereby inaccurate "take" assessment is avoided. This is important as over assessment causes bait to be laid unnecessarily while the reverse leaves infested sections inadequately treated.

(d) LOCAL AUTHORITY PREMISES.

Refuse tips and other Local Authority premises were kept under supervision and treated as necessary.

(e) GENERAL.

During the year a new poison developed by the Ministry of Agriculture Research Section was brought into being. It is a chemical poison known by the trade name of "Warfarin" and within limits is poisonous only to rats and mice. It has proved an excellent addition to those poisons already used in that it may be safely employed in domestic premises and out-buildings. While its use in existing bait bases has proved very effective further information from the Ministry is awaited as it is understood that experiments are proceeding to determine whether its effect may be heightened by the use of ternative bases.

Housing—Repair, Overcrowding and Demolition.

(a) REPAIR.

Previous reports have made reference to the problem facing your officers in obtaining repair of premises in the face of the difficulties pleaded by owners on economic grounds. As this is a matter which is possibly to be dealt with at official level within the coming year no further comment is made in this report save to indicate that the position is still unchanged and that it is far more difficult to obtain repair of houses today than at any time during the pre-war years.

In spite of these difficulties co-ordination of action with the rehousing of occupants has enabled your officers to improve housing conditions by the repair of premises when vacated. It has been found of more lasting benefit and to be more practicable to obtain implementation of notices served by persuasion rather than Court action. This latter course is resorted to only when all other efforts have failed.

RENT RESTRICTION ACTS, 1923-42.

Three applications for certificates of disrepair were granted during the year.

(b) OVERCROWDING.

As indicated later in this report 150 families were relieved of overcrowding during the year in premises where overcrowding existed to some degree. Where the premises concerned were capable of reoccupation action was taken to ensure that the new occupants would not cause overcrowding. It was not necessary during the year to take action under Circular 17/49 (Wales) for increasing the permitted number under the Housing Act, 1936.

(c) DEMOLITION AND CLOSURE.

Action was taken during the year in respect of 27 properties. These properties were distributed as follows :—

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Demolition Order</i>	<i>Demolished</i>	<i>Undertaking Accepted</i>
Gellionen ..	2	—	4
Cilybebyll ..	—	—	3
Godregraig ..	—	—	3
Alltygrug ..	1	—	2
Cwmllynfell ..	5	—	5
Mawr ..	1	—	1
Totals ..	9	—	18

The figure of 27 houses dealt with is a marked increase on the previous year but falls short of the number necessary for effective slum clearance. While, however, the problems of apartment families, ill-health and overcrowding make their undeniable demands upon the number of new houses available, it is difficult to see how this number may be substantially exceeded. Governmental policy, however, may indicate a line of action in due course.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	791
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	2,125
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) (above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	791
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,521
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.. ..	Nil since completion of survey.
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	791

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ..	193
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Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	by Owners (in process of completion)	Nil
(b)	by Local Authority in default of Owners (in process of completion) ..	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	288
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	113
(a) by Owners	112
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	1
(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made . .	9
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders . .	Nil
(3) Premises in respect of which Undertakings to repair were accepted	18
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	Nil

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	239
(2) Number of families dwelling therein . .	562
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein . .	2,338
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	24
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	150
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	561
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding . .	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

Joint County Rural Housing Committee.

With the completion of the Survey the need for frequent meetings has diminished and this body now exists for the discussion of housing problems as and when they arise.

The meetings called during the year were attended by your officers and benefit received from the interchange of opinion.

Common Lodging Houses.

One Common Lodging House only remains in the area and this was registered during the year as a satisfactory premises. The occupants are permanent residents and there is little if any casual use.

Land Charges.

A total of 259 land charges inquiries were dealt with departmentally during the year. These were distributed on a Ward basis as follows :

Clydach	..	45	Ynisymond	..	10
Gellionen	..	15	Cilybebyll	..	32
Mawr	..	13	Blaenegel & Mawr		59
Godrergraig	..	9	Allytgrug	..	29
Cwmlllynfell	..	6	Caegurwen	..	41

Atmospheric Pollution.

The problem of atmospheric pollution was brought very much to the public mind in the last month of 1952, when the London "smog" and the consequent increased death rate brought home forcibly the dependence of health upon clean air. Your Council decided during 1951 to become members of the National Smoke Abatement Society and also to set up instruments for determining the condition of the atmosphere in this area. A station was therefore set up at the Council Offices, Pontardawe, in January of 1952 and later in the year a further station was established at the County Yard, Clydach. Both these points are well sited to give readings of the greatest degree of pollution in relation to surrounding works and combustion processes and for the first time it is possible to assess the degree of pollution existing in the area. Readings are in the main taken to determine monthly the amount of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in the atmosphere. This pollutant is produced during the combustion of fuel. The readings at the two stations during 1952 are tabulated and it is pleasing to note that when compared with the industrial areas of the country the results are satisfactory. In most instances the figure concerned is less than 1 milligram whereas in some of the industrial areas of England the figure rises as high as 4-5 milligrams.

<i>Mg. of SO₃/day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Batch A Pboz (louvered cover)</i>			
<i>Month</i>	<i>Council Offices Pontardawe</i>	<i>County Yard Clydach</i>	
January	.. 1.35	—	
February	.. 0.72	1.17	
March	.. 0.60	0.64	
April	.. 0.95	0.75	
May	.. 0.61	0.62	
June	.. 0.68	0.72	
July	.. 0.38	0.53	
August	.. 0.85	0.82	
September	.. 0.63	0.54	
October	.. 1.39	1.12	
November	.. 1.34	0.87	
December	.. 1.41	1.13	

Dust Pollution.

Another important factor in atmospheric pollution is the amount of grit or dust discharged to the atmosphere either in the form of unconsumed hydro carbon or as grit content. In order to obtain data and the degree of dust deposited in the area readings were taken during July and Spetember of 1952 by an apparatus that determines after analysis the amount of total solids falling in tons per square mile per month.

It is again pleasing to note that the results were as follows :—

July, 1952 .. 18.51 tons/sq. mile/month.
September, 1952 .. 14.3 tons/sq. mile/month.

While these figures may seem startling the laboratory concerned reports the result as denoting a fairly clean atmosphere. When compared with some industrial areas of England and Wales the reading is comparatively low.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(1) MILK.

1952 has further increased the trend referred to in last year's report in the increased consumption of pasteurised milk in the area. In point of fact only a very small percentage of the milk sold is now untreated. Many small retailers obtain their supplies from wholesalers who heat treat the milk prior to delivery in bottles. This commendable change brings with it, however, one problem, that of satisfactory depots for the depositing of wholesale milk for later collection by the retailer. Both parties are being urged to provide adequate collection points in order that there is no possibility of contamination while awaiting collection.

MILK SUPPLY.

(a)	Number of Inspections made of Dairies and Milk-shops during the year	38
(b)	Number of Dairies which were internally reconditioned, new floors and channels in cement concrete, additional windows fixed for improving the lighting and ventilation, new stalls and troughs, etc., erected	I
(c)	New Dairies erected	I
(d)	Number of Dairies limewashed on internal surfaces of walls, and interior of roofs cleansed as the result of informal action taken	3

Samples of graded and ungraded milk have been taken frequently. Particulars of these are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

(2) MEAT.

The slaughtering of animals is, under an Order made in 1940, centralised at Swansea and Llandilo. Meat for consumption within the area is delivered by van from these establishments to allocation depots at Clydach and Ystalyfera, local distribution being effected from these depots.

The transport and handling of meat to and at retail establishments has been dealt with during the year. Frequent inspections were made of the vans used for carrying the meat prior to allocation.

The co-operation of the Department is sought from time to time by the Ministry of Food for the inspection of meat illicitly slaughtered. In such cases the meat concerned is inspected and a certificate given in accordance with the findings of the post-mortem examinations.

During 1952 the assistance of your officers was sought by the Ministry of Food in connection with one particular case as a result of which it was necessary for evidence to be given under sub-poena during subsequent hearing of the charges preferred by the Ministry.

3) BUTCHERS' SHOPS—MEAT PRODUCTS.

The above premises have been found satisfactory upon inspection and are well equipped for the purpose of handling meat. In a number of cases fittings have been renewed and shop premises redecorated. Almost all are fitted with refrigerators that ensure efficient cold storage of meat stocks held on the premises. Advice is given during inspection regarding sterilisation and handling of implements used for the manufacture of meat products and butchers informed of

the dangers that can result from careless practices. The overalls used by personnel are clean and the general standard very satisfactory. It is thought that the wartime practice of opening only for four days per week which has been carried into the post-war years gives butchers an opportunity of cleaning their shops and equipment during the days that they are not open for business.

(4) SALE AND STORAGE OF FOODS (GENERAL).

Improvements have been effected in storage premises where food is concerned. Food byelaws approved by your Council have given wider powers to your officers in obtaining satisfactory conditions. The importance of hygienic handling of food has been strongly emphasised as a result of the paratyphoid outbreak experienced in this and many other South Wales areas during 1952. It is proposed to prepare codes of practice based upon the food byelaws for each food trade so that food handlers may be aware of the particular dangers relating to their own field. These will be distributed to food handlers by the Department.

(5) ICECREAM.

Samples of icecream have been taken for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination during the year. The supervision of icecream is not now as in previous years confined to the summer months only. It is a product that is manufactured and sold throughout the year. It has become increasingly evident during the year that with the coming into force of regulations regarding manufacture the small retailer tends to cease production and instead turn to the sale of prepacked icecream manufactured by the larger factories. While such a tendency brings in its turn the possibility of epidemics attributed to ice cream being more widespread because of the wider range of sale of the infected product, this can be discounted by the fact that the capital available to the larger manufacturer enables the latest type of plant and means of sterilisation to be installed. The change, therefore is welcomed and it is hoped that the trend will continue.

Particular attention has been paid during the year to the supervision of icecream retailers who sell, not from established premises, but from vehicles. With one exception these vehicles enter the area from surrounding districts and it has been necessary in a few instances to issue warnings regarding the condition of the vehicle. The one vehicle operating from premises within the area is entirely satisfactory having been specially constructed for the purpose of icecream sale.

(6) LICENSED PREMISES, CLUBS, ETC.

Further improvements have been effected in licensed premises both from the point of view of sanitary accommodation and clothes washing facilities. In some instances the certification of need of improvement by your Authority has assisted the owners concerned to obtain the necessary licences for the work.

(7) UNFIT FOODS.

The following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption :—

Bacon	..	91¼ lbs	Jellies	..	132 pkts.
Barley	..	12 tins	Fresh Meat	..	211 lbs.
Cake Flours	..	406 pkts.	Cooked Meats	..	321½ lbs.
Cereals	..	25 pkts.	Offal (Bovine)	..	1 set
Cheese	..	142½ lbs.	Paste	..	4 jars
Cheese Processed	..	13 pkts.	Sauce & Pickles	..	121 bots.
Dates	..	27 boxes	Semolina	..	55 lbs.
Eggs	..	30 doz.	Soups	..	4 pkts.
Fish (Smoked)	..	56 lbs.	Tea	..	3 lbs.
Honey	..	1 lb.	Tins (assorted)	..	425
Horlicks	..	1 jar	Tins (fruit)	..	449
Jams	..	2 lbs.	Tins (meat)	..	180

Disinfection.

The disinfection plant was operating efficiently during the year and clothing and bedding was returned to householders with as little delay as possible.

Particular attention is paid to disinfection of premises following removal to hospital, or death. Bed and immediate personal clothing is removed for disinfection while the room or rooms considered infective are treated with a suitable disinfectant in atomised form.

1—Number of investigations made of Notified Infectious Disease cases	..	..	..	130
2—Number of premises fumigated or otherwise disinfected	..	..	..	126
3—Number of cases where clothes were steam disinfected	..	..	..	96
4—(a) Number of cases where bedding was destroyed after Tuberculosis	..	..	..	5
(b) Compensation paid for such bedding under Section 167 Public Health Act, 1936	..	..	..	£22/10/0

Householders were provided with disinfectant and disinfecting soap, precautionary measures for preventing spread of infection being fully explained. Special attention was paid to those cases nursed at home. Children of school age were excluded for the appropriate time, where necessary.

Disinfestation.

Advice and assistance has been given to householders for the eradication of various types of infestation. The diminution in the issue of insecticides and powders has been due to the fact that the work is being carried out directly rather than by issuing the insecticides to the householder for his own use. This has been much appreciated by the householder for the Department has the necessary equipment of sprays, atomisers and pressure blowers to ensure thorough disinfestation.

Departmental Distribution of Disinfectants and Insecticides.

Disinfectant (Liquid)	..	223 bottles
Disinfectant Soap	..	85½ lbs.
D.D.T. Liquid	..	27 bottles.
D.D.T Powder	..	74 packets
Rat Biscuits	..	149 dozen

PART II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE SHOPS ACT, 1950.

In accordance with the Agreement between this Authority and the Glamorgan County Council, the Report annually required is herewith submitted on the administration of the Shops Act, 1950.

1.—Early Closing.

The early closing day varies in the district by reason of traders having exercised their legal right of opting for the alternative day.

The exercise of the above right has resulted in a variation of day within the same township. The community, however, appears to be well served. Particular attention has been paid to ensure that premises open for the sale of exempted goods do not sell articles not included in that Schedule.

2.—Closing Hours.

Shops within the area close according to the times set out in the Act and associated Regulations. Regulation 60 A.B. which sets out winter closing hours operated within the appropriate dates.

The hours of closing permitted by the Shops Act, 1950, operate within the area, the local Closing Order of 1915 being invalid, due to incompatibility with the above Act.

In view of the operation of Regulation 60 A.B. your Council resolved to extend closing time for the week preceding Christmas, and to communicate with the County Council regarding their confirmation of the variation.

3.—Sunday Trading.

It has been noted that small shops particularly those where mixed sale exists and where there are housing estates near are sometimes tempted to infringe the Sunday Trading Provisions of the Act. Visits are now being made on Sunday to various parts of the area in order to ensure that statutory provisions are complied with. The Sunday trading schedule of the Act is not a matter of general knowledge and consideration is being given to supplying traders and chambers of trade with copies so that the elements of Sunday trading are clearly understood.

4.—Employment of Young Persons.

The provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, and the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938, are generally observed within the area. There are recorded to date 32 young persons employed in and about shops. The hours of work of these young persons and the conditions of their employment are duly investigated during routine inspections.

No matters affecting young persons and requiring action under the above Act arose during the year. Liaison with the Youth Employment Bureau has proved of much assistance in the administration of these provisions.

5.—Infringements.

It has not been necessary during the year to take formal action against persons infringing this Act. Provided that the legal provisions are, of course, fully implemented, such a statement is thought preferable to one involving proceedings, for, particularly where welfare is concerned, it is felt that compliance through informal action is of more lasting benefit than a successful prosecution. Occupiers are urged to instal gas or electric geysers, particularly in large lock-up premises where no domestic facilities are available.

In order to avoid infringements details of general closing hours, winter closing hours and Christmas extensions were published in the local press at appropriate times.

6.—Authorised Officers.

Your Senior Sanitary Inspector and first Additional Sanitary Inspector are Authorised Officers under the above Act.

7.—General Observations on the Year's Work.

(a) During 1952, 212 inspections were made for matters falling within the Shops Act, 1950.

(b) The main shop premises of the area are of a type that have living accommodation at the rear. While this provides automatic compliance with the health and other arrangements generally it sometimes creates difficulty in that close watch has to be kept that closing hours in general and Sunday trading regulations in particular are not infringed.

IEUAN LEWIS,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector and
Shops' Inspector.*

